

A. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

(Deleted language is lined through and added language is underlined)

1. (Currently amended) A portable boat ramp made of components conveniently assembled by a customer-user from an unassembled compactly packaged condition, comprising:

(i) a ladder-style frame comprised of parallel elongated side rails having a length greater than 10 feet, each said parallel elongated side rail being comprised of more than one side rail section with said sections of said parallel elongated side rail removably connected together in an end-to-end relationship, cross support beams ~~for removable mounting~~ removably mounted to said parallel elongated side rails to hold said rails in spaced apart parallel condition, each said elongated side rail having a termination at one end as a water end and termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp in use having its ladder-style frame resting in direct contact on the earth of a lakeshore with its water end extending into the lake water,

(ii) at least six hull roller assemblies removably mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationships across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said side rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water

end half of the length of each said side rail, each said assembly comprising a bracket ~~for mounting~~ mounted on a side rail of said ladder-style frame, a hull roller axle ~~for mounting by~~ mounted on said bracket in a pivotable elevated transverse orientation above a side rail of said ladder-style frame, and two hull rollers ~~for mounting~~ on said axle so that one hull roller is at each end of said axle,

(iii) a water end keel assembly comprised of a water end cross member, a keel roller bracket having bracket ends, a keel roller axle ~~for mounting~~ mounted between said bracket ends, and a keel roller ~~for mounting~~ mounted on said axle, said keel roller having an axial length greater than 6 inches and a diameter at its axial ends that extends radially outward from said bracket ends, and

(iv) a winch assembly mounted ~~on said rails~~ at said shore end on said ladder-style frame, said winch assembly including a beam sloped upwardly away from said water end, a winch supported at an elevated condition by said assembly at a location proximate to the outer end of said beam.

2. (Currently amended) Compactly packaged unassembled components for convenient assembly by a customer-user to form a boat ramp, said components including

(a) components for a ladder-style frame ~~comprised~~ consisting of elongated side rails, and a plurality of cross

support beams for removable mounting to said rails so as to hold said rails in spaced apart parallel condition, each said elongated side rail having a termination at one end as a water end and a termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp in use having its ladder-style frame resting in direct contact on the earth of a lakeshore with its water end extending into the lake water,

(b) components for at least six hull roller assemblies for removable mounting on said side rails in laterally paired relationships across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said side rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the length of each said side rail, each said assembly comprising a bracket for mounting on a side rail of said ladder-style frame, a hull roller axle for mounting by said bracket in a pivotable elevated transverse orientation above a side rail of said ladder-style frame, and two hull rollers for mounting on said axle so that one hull roller is at each end of said axle,

(c) components for a water end keel assembly comprised of a water end cross member, a keel roller bracket having bracket ends, a keel roller axle for mounting between said bracket ends, and a keel roller for mounting on said axle,

said keel roller having an axial length greater than 6 inches and a diameter at its axial ends that extends radially outward of said bracket ends, and

(d) components for a shore end winch assembly on said ladder-style frame at said shore end, said winch assembly components including a beam for mounting at its inner end on said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly apced from said shore end so as to slope upwardly toward said shore end and a winch for mounting at an elevated condition by said assembly at a location proximate to the outer end of said beam.

3. (previously added and allowed) A boat ramp comprising:

(i) a ladder-style frame having elongated lateral side rails held in spaced apart parallel condition by cross support beams, said spaced apart condition being greater than about one and one-half feet, said rails having a length greater than 10 feet and terminating at one end as a water end and terminating at the other end as a shore end,

(ii) at least six hull roller assemblies mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationship across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the

length of each said rail, each said assembly having a hull roller axle carrying at each end thereof a hull roller, said hull roller assemblies being so mounted on said rails that their said axles are in pivotable elevated transverse orientation above said rails so as to permit said hull rollers to pivot and rotate according to the contour of the hull of a boat pulled into resting condition thereupon, and

(iii) a shore end winch assembly comprising a winch assembly beam mounted at its inner end on a said cross support beam between said rails at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end, said winch assembly beam being sloped upward toward said shore end at a low angle of no more than about 45 degrees above the elongated direction of said rails, and a winch supported at an elevated condition proximate to the elevated outer end of said winch assembly beam.

4. (Currently amended) A simplified portable boat ramp ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of:

(i) a ladder-style frame consisting essentially of parallel elongated side rails on opposite sides and cross support beams holding said side rails in spaced-apart parallel condition, each said elongated side rail having an upper surface and a termination at one end as a water end and a termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp

in use having its ladder-style frame resting directly on the earth of a lakeshore with the water end of the rails extending into the lake water,

(ii) at least four hull roller assemblies mounted on each said side rail of said latter-style frame so as to project up from the upper surface of each said side rail so as to provide a total of at least eight hull roller assemblies on said frame, each said hull roller assembly comprising a bracket, a hull roller axle and two hull rollers mounted on said axle so that one hull roller is at each end of said axle, each said bracket being formed to have a pair of upstanding ears for pivot mounting of said hull roller axle therebetween so that the hull roller axle extends transversely to said elongated side rails and pivots in a transverse plane perpendicular to and at an elevated location above said elongated side rails, said transverse orientation of said axle to said side rails being such as to permit said hull rollers to follow the contour of the hull of a boat as it is pulled into resting condition thereupon, and

(iii) a shore end winch assembly comprising an upstanding beam mounted at its inner end on ~~a said cross support beam between said rails~~ said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slope

upwardly toward said shore end and a winch mounted on said
upstanding beam supported at an elevated condition by said
assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end
of said beam.

5. (Currently amended) Compactly packaged unassembled components for convenient assembly by a customer-user to form a boat ramp ~~of the type having a basic structure in the form~~ consisting of a ladder-style frame, hull roller assemblies on said ladder-style frame for supporting a boat hull, and a shore end winch assembly on said frame, wherein said ladder-style frame ~~consisting essentially consists of parallel elongated side rails on opposite sides and a plurality of cross support beams mounted to said side rails so as to hold said side rails in spaced-apart parallel condition, and wherein each said elongated side rail has~~ having a termination at one end as a water end and a termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp in use having its ladder-style frame resting in direct contact on the earth of a lakeshore with its water end extending into the lake water, wherein said hull roller assemblies include at least six said hull roller assemblies mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationship across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the length of each said rail, each said hull roller

assembly having a hull roller axle carrying at each end thereof a hull roller, said hull roller assemblies being so mounted on said rails that their said axles are in pivotable elevated transverse orientation above said rails so as to permit said hull rollers to pivot and rotate according to the contour of the hull of a boat pulled into resting condition thereupon, and wherein said winch assembly has a beam mounted at its inner end on said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slope upwardly toward said shore end and a winch supported at an elevated condition by said assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end of said beam, said compactly packaged unassembled components comprising

(i) parts for at least six said hull roller assemblies, ~~each said assembly comprising a bracket for mounting on a side rail of said ladder-style frame, a hull roller axle for pivot mounting by said bracket so that the hull roller axle extends transversely to said elongated side rails of said ladder-style frame, and two hull rollers for mounting on said axle so that one hull roller is at each end of said axle, and~~

(ii) parts for ~~a~~ said shore end winch assembly.

6. (New) A simplified and easily assembled and easily used boat ramp in readiness for receiving a boat, said ramp comprising:

(i) a ladder-style frame consisting essentially of elongated lateral side rails held in spaced apart parallel condition by cross support beams, said spaced apart condition being greater than about one and one-half feet, said rails terminating at one end as a water end and terminating at the other end as a shore end, said ladder-style frame itself being in resting condition directly on the earth of a lakeshore with the water end of the rails extending into the lake water,

(ii) at least six hull roller assemblies mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationship across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the length of each said rail, each said assembly having a hull roller axle carrying at each end thereof a hull roller, said hull roller assemblies being so mounted on said rails that their said axles extend transversely to said elongated side rails and pivot in a transverse plane perpendicular to and at an elevated location above said rails so as to permit said hull rollers to pivot and rotate according to the contour of the hull of a boat pulled into resting condition thereupon, and

(iii) a shore end winch assembly having a beam mounted

at its inner end on a said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slope upwardly toward said shore end and having a winch supported at an elevated condition by said winch assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end of said beam.

7. (New) A simplified portable boat ramp consisting essentially of:

(i) a ladder-style frame consisting essentially of parallel elongated side rails on opposite sides and cross support beams holding said side rails in spaced-apart parallel condition, each said elongated side rail having an upper surface and a termination at one end as a water end and a termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp in use having its ladder-style frame resting directly on the earth of a lakeshore with the water end of the rails extending into the lake water,

(ii) at least four hull roller assemblies mounted on each said side rail of said latter-style frame so as to project up from the upper surface of each said side rail so as to provide a total of at least eight hull roller assemblies on said frame, each said hull roller assembly comprising a bracket and a hull roller support for the hull of a boat pulled into resting condition thereupon, and

(iii) a shore end winch assembly comprising an

upstanding beam mounted at its inner end on said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slope upwardly toward said shore end and a winch supported at an elevated condition by said assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end of said beam.

8. (New) Compactly packaged unassembled components for convenient assembly by a customer-user to form a boat ramp consisting of a ladder-style frame, hull roller assemblies on said ladder-style frame for supporting a boat hull, and a shore end winch assembly on said frame, wherein said ladder-style frame consists of parallel elongated side rails on opposite sides and a plurality of cross support beams mounted to said side rails so as to hold said side rails in spaced-apart parallel condition, each said elongated side rail having a termination at one end as a water end and a termination at the other end as a shore end, said ramp in use having its ladder-style frame resting in direct contact on the earth of a lakeshore with its water end extending into the lake water, wherein said hull roller assemblies include at least six said hull roller assemblies mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationship across from each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the length of each said rail, each said hull roller assembly providing support for the hull of a boat

pulled into resting condition thereupon, and wherein said winch assembly has a beam mounted at its inner end on said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slop upwardly toward said shore end and a winch supported at an elevated condition by said assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end of said beam, said compactly packaged unassembled components comprising

(i) parts for at least six said hull roller assemblies, and

(ii) parts for said shore end winch assembly.

9. (New) A simplified and easily assembled and easily used boat ramp in readiness for receiving a boat, said ramp comprising:

(i) a ladder-style frame consisting essentially of elongated lateral side rails held in spaced apart parallel condition by cross support beams, said spaced apart condition being greater than about one and one-half feet, said rails terminating at one end as a water end and terminating at the other end as a shore end, said ladder-style frame itself being in resting condition directly on the earth of a lakeshore with the water end of the rails extending into the lake water,

(ii) at least six hull roller assemblies mounted on said side rails in laterally paired relationship across from

each other and in longitudinally spaced relationship along said rails such that at least three said hull roller assemblies are distributed over the water end half of the length of each said rail, each said assembly providing support for the hull of a boat pulled into resting condition thereupon, and

(iii) a shore end winch assembly having a beam mounted at its inner end on a said ladder-style frame at a location inwardly spaced from said shore end so as to slope upwardly toward said shore end and having a winch supported at an elevated condition by said winch assembly at a location proximate to the elevated outer end of said beam.